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E.O. 12958: N/A TAGS: ENRG IEA PO

SUBJECT: PORTUGAL OPEN TO DISCUSSING IEA MEMBERSHIP FOR

NON-OECD MEMBERS (CHINA/INDIA)

REF: STATE 14271

11. (SBU) Pol/Econ Officer delivered reftel talking points to the MFA's Director of International Economic Organizations Jose Rui Caroco and Senior Advisor on International Organizations and Economic Affairs Duarte Nuno G.J. Pinto da Rocha. Caroco stated that even though the IEA requires that its members be OECD members first, the GOP is open to discussing the USG proposal to explore alternative membership options, as in the case of the Financial Action Task Force. He noted that climate change, supply disruption and energy security are global concerns and that the GOP would like to see major energy-consuming countries like India and China more in-line with IEA Shared Goals.

12. (SBU) Caroco will advise the Portuguese OECD office in Paris of the USG's plan to raise the membership issue during the next IEA Governing Board meeting. Caroco will also consult with other IEA members within the EU to see if there are any consensus-building possibilities.

Stephenson